



Photo by Vannasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.

Ralph Willmer -VHB, speaks with citizens about the new plan

10 - Public Comments



ARLINGTON REDEVELOPMENT BOARD

TOWN HALL ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02476
TELEPHONE 781-316-3090

September 19, 2007

Kevin O'Brien, Director
Dept. Planning and Community Development
Town Hall Annex
730 Massachusetts Avenue
Arlington, MA 02476

Dear Mr. O'Brien:

The Arlington Redevelopment Board is supportive of the efforts of the Open Space Committee in creating and producing the Town of Arlington Open Space and Recreation Plan Update, 2007-2012. Indeed, we support the ongoing efforts of the many Town staff and numerous volunteer groups involved in maintaining and managing the resources that the entire community enjoys.

The Redevelopment Board has reviewed the draft plan. It acknowledges the many accomplishments that have been made and recognizes the future actions that are included. The Board has the following comments:

- We recommend a balanced approach to the use of financial resources – an approach that will weigh choices between land acquisition and the maintenance and upgrading of existing open space resources.
- Land acquisition for permanent open space use is a priority in the draft plan. The Board would like to consider and evaluate the full range of development opportunities associated with acquisition; we believe that, in addition to achieving open space goals, other planning objectives also should be considered in determining the best use for a particular parcel. We believe we should also encourage the preservation or development of public open space within the private development of an undeveloped property.
- We further believe that the Alewife Brook and the Mystic River Reservations be given added import and attention for future open space initiatives.

The Redevelopment Board has recently engaged in a survey to determine the preferences of Arlington's population. That process confirms the desire Arlingtonians have for preserving open space in our densely developed community. As the Board reviews development requests, it will be cognizant of the desire to maintain open spaces.

We look forward to working with the community to implement the goals of the Plan; we recognize the plan as a vital planning tool for the future of the Town.

Sincere regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Roland Chaput".
Roland Chaput, Chairman

200th Anniversary **ARLINGTON** Home of Uncle Sam
1807-2007

10. Public Comments

This Section contains letters of support for the 2007 - 2012 Open Space and Recreation Plan update from the following organizations:

1. Arlington Redevelopment Board
2. Arlington Board of Selectmen
3. Arlington Park and Recreation Commission
4. Arlington Conservation Commission

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ANNIE LACOURT, CHAIR
DIANE M. MAHON, VICE-CHAIR
KEVIN F. GREELEY
JOHN W. HURD
CLARISSA ROWE



730 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
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PLANNING & COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
07 SEP 13 PM 5:13

TOWN OF ARLINGTON
MASSACHUSETTS 02476-4908

September 13, 2007

Kevin O'Brien
Director of Planning and
Community Development
Town of Arlington
730 Massachusetts Avenue
Arlington, MA 02476


Dear Mr. O'Brien:

The Board of Selectmen would like to offer its enthusiastic support for the "Town of Arlington Open Space and Recreation Plan update 2007-2012." We would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the hard work of the members of the Open Space Committee since the adoption of the Town's first open space plan in 1996. Their continued dedication has brought respect and attention to open space matters in the Town. The Board would like to especially thank member Ann LeRoyer for her hard work and contribution to the updated plan.

We look forward to a continue relationship of working to improve our open space system, our natural areas and parks and playgrounds. We believe that a commitment to the improvement of our open spaces will keep Arlington an attractive town with a high quality of life for its residents.

We continue to be committed in implementing the practical steps as outlined in the Open Space Plan.

Very truly yours,
BOARD OF SELECTMEN


Annie LaCourt
Chairman

TOWN OF ARLINGTON

PARK COMMISSIONERS

Joseph Connelly, Director of Recreation
Heather Maietta, Recreation Coordinator
Dan McGrath, Program Coordinator
Laura Munsey, Administrative Asst



Nancy Campbell
Joseph Carabello
Leslie Mayer
Donald Vitters

Recreation Department

August 13, 2007

Ann LeRoyer, Chairperson
Open Space Committee
c/o Department of Planning and Community Development
Town Hall Annex
730 Massachusetts Avenue
Arlington, MA 02474

Re: 2007-2012 Open Space and Recreation Plan

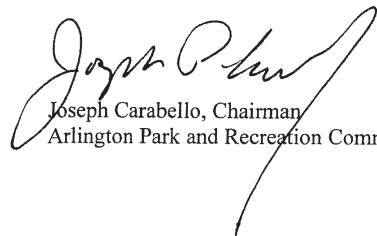
Dear Ann,

The Park and Recreation Commission would like to express its support of the Town of Arlington's Open Space and Recreation Plan Update, 2007-2012. The Commission has reviewed the goals and objectives and 5-year action plan and has been kept apprised of the progress of the plan and public forums by Leslie Mayer, our representative to the Open Space Committee. At its July 24, 2007 meeting, the Park and Recreation Commission voted unanimously to support the plan.

The Commission continues to be particularly concerned with the need for improved maintenance of Arlington's parks, playgrounds and playing fields and with the high level of demand placed on Arlington's recreational resources. As noted in the plan, the need to secure additional sources of funding, staffing and support for the Town's open space and recreational resources is essential for meeting the goals of the plan and retaining high quality public recreation facilities and Recreation Department programs.

We feel that that the Open Space and Recreation Plan Update, 2007-2012 reflects the needs of the community and look forward to helping make the plan a reality.

Sincerely,


Joseph Carabello, Chairman
Arlington Park and Recreation Commission

422 Summer Street, Arlington, Massachusetts 02474
Telephone (781) 316-3880 Fax (781) 641-5495
www.town.arlington.ma.us

PLANNING & COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
07 AUG 20 PM 3:21



07 AUG 14 AM 11:52
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

TOWN OF ARLINGTON
730 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
ARLINGTON, MA 02476
781-316-3012

August 10, 2007

Kevin O'Brien, Director
Department of Planning and Community Development
Town Hall
730 Massachusetts Avenue
Arlington, MA 02475

RE: Open Space Plan Update: 2007-2012

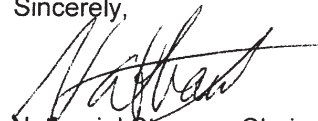
Dear Kevin:

The Conservation Commission expresses its strong support of the Open Space and Recreation Plan Update of 2007-2012. David White of the Commission has been working extensively on this update as the Commission's representative to the Open Space Committee. David has kept the Conservation Commission apprised of the Update's development.

The Conservation Commission voted, unanimously, at its August 2, 2007 meeting to support the plan update.

The Commission looks forward to actively working with the Open Space Committee and you and your staff to implement the goals of the Update.

Sincerely,



Nathaniel Stevens, Chair



Metropolitan Area Planning Council

60 Temple Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02111 617-451-2770 fax 617-482-7185 www.mapc.org

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February 22, 2008

Kevin O'Brien
Director of Planning and Community Development
Town of Arlington
730 Massachusetts Avenue
Arlington, MA 02476

Dear Mr. O'Brien:

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council has reviewed the Town of Arlington Open Space and Recreation Plan Update 2007-2012. The plan is well-written and thorough and appears to meet the guidelines of the Division of Conservation Services. I am pleased to see that Arlington's participation in the Inner Core Committee is noted and that the plan takes into consideration the many inter-community and regional open space initiatives in the subregion.

This thorough plan should serve the Town well as it continues to protect open space in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this plan.

Sincerely,

Marc D. Draisen
Executive Director

Cc: Melissa Cryan, Division of Conservation Services

Richard A. Dimino, *President*

Gordon Feltman, *Vice President*

Grace S. Shepard, *Treasurer*

Jay Ash, *Secretary*

Marc D. Draisen, *Executive Director*